The Defence Secretaries level talks between Pakistan and India to discuss Siachen issue under the Composite Dialogue Framework were held in Islamabad on 26-27 May 2005. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the ceasefire currently in place since November 2003 and agreed to its continuation. The two Defence Secretaries agreed to continue with their discussions to resolve the Siachen Issue in a peaceful manner.

Indo-Pak discussion

402. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held in May and June last between the Governments of India and Pakistan to ease tension between the two countries on Siachen in Jammu and Kashmir and Sir Creek on the Gujarat-Pak Border; and

(b) if so, the out come thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The Defence Secretaries level talks between Pakistan and India to discuss Siachen Issue under the Composite Dialogue Framework were held in Islamabad on 26-27 May 2005. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the ceasefire currently in place since November 2003 and agreed to its continuation. The two Defence Secretaries agreed to continue with their discussions to resolve the Siachen Issue in a peaceful manner.

Talks on the Sir Creek issue under the Composite Dialogue Framework were held in Rawalpindi on 28-29 May 2005 to discuss the demarcation of International boundary between the two countries in the Sir Creek area. No outcome was reached. The two sides, however, agreed to continue their discussions aimed at an early resolution of the issue for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

Depiction of Hindu Gods on shoes

403. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some of the countries, especially France and other European countries are printing